

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 00619 101011Z  
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-15 CAB-05 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 CIEP-02 FAA-00  
OMB-01 TRSE-00 /106 W  
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R 100900Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4013  
INFO AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 0619

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, ECON, EAIR, TZ KE  
SUBJ: TANZANIA CLOSURE OF BORDER WITH KENYA

1. TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT "DAILY NEWS" FEBRUARY 10 CARRIES  
FIRST PUBLIC REFERENCE IN TANZANIA TO FEBRUARY 3 BORDER  
CLOSURE IN FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE UNDER HEADLINE, "BORDER CLOSURE:  
KENYA TO BLAME". FULL TEXT BELOW. ALSO ON FRONT PAGE ARE  
EDITORIAL AND ARTICLE (NOT SENT) DESCRIBING DIFFICULTIES BEING  
ENCOUNTERED BY TANZANIANS IN KENYA WISHING TO RETURN HOME.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

PRESIDENT NYERERE HAS SAID THE BORDER WITH KENYA WAS SEALED BY  
TANZANIA AFTER A SERIES OF KENYAN ACTIONS WHICH HAVE RESULTED IN  
THE DISINTEGRATION OF THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE EAST AFRICAN  
COMMUNITY.

IN AN INTERVIEW WITH A FOREIGN NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENT IN  
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PAGE 02 DAR ES 00619 101011Z

DAR ES SALAAM LAST WEEKEND, PRESIDENT NYERERE SAID THAT KENYA HAS  
UNILATERALLY BROKEN UP THE EAST AFRICAN RAILWAYS CORPORATION,  
NATIONALISED THE EAST AFRICAN HABOURS CORPORATION, SEIZED  
FOUR JOINTLY-OWNED SHIPS ON LAKE VICTORIA AND, MOST RECENTLY,  
GROUNDED THE EAST AFRICAN AIRWAYS CORPORATION.

"THEREE HAS BEEN A SERIES OF EVENTS BY KENYA AND IT'S ONLY  
AT THIS LAST ONE WHERE WE WERE FORCED TO SAY KENYA MUST NOW BE

PREPARED TO FACE THE CONSEQUENCES OF BREADKING UP THE COMMUNITY", PRESIDENT NYERERE SAID.

THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT IF KENYA HAS DECIDED THAT THERE WERE TO BE NO RAIL OR AIR LINKS WITH TANZANIA "THEY MUST BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THAT THERE IS NOT GOING TO BE OTHER MOVEMENT ALSO".

A NUMBER OF FOREIGN TOURISTS WHO WERE VISITING TANZANIA GAME PARKS IN KENYAN-REGISTERED TOUR BUSES WERE STRANDED AS A RESULT BUT MOST OF THEM HAVE NOW BEEN AIRLIFTED OUT WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF THE TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT.

BUT THE KENYAN DRIVERS OF THE TOUR BUSES HAVE REMAINED BEHIND WITH THEIR VEHICLES.

PRESIDENT NYERERE SAID THAT THE KENYAN DRIVERS ARE FREE TO LEAVE TANZANIA "AT ANY TIME".

ASKED HOW LONG THE BORDER RESTRICTIONS ARE GOING TO BE IN FORCE, PRESIDENT NYERRERE SAID: "AT LEAST UNTIL WE SIT AND SEE WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO ABOUT THE FUTURE."

THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT HIS MOST IMMEDIATE CONCERN WAS FOR THE SAFE RETURN TO TANZANIA OF 250 TANZANIANS EMPLOYED BY THE EAST AFRICAN AIRWAYS CORPORATION IN KENYA.

PRESIDENT NYERERE SAID THAT THE KENYAN GOVERNMENT HAD NO RIGHT TO DISMISS THEM IN THE FIRST PLACE BECAUSE THEY WERE EMPLOYEES OF AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND NOT THE KENYAN GOVERNMENT.

HE SAID THAT THE TANZANIANS IN KENYA ARE BEING HARASSED AND SAID, "I AM ASKING THAT THE TANZANIANS WHO ARE NOT WANTED BY KENYA BE ALLOWED TO COME BACK."

"IT IS NOT POSSIBLE THAT ALL THESE THINGS ARE GOING TO HAPPEN AND THERE ARE NOT GOING TO BE ANY CONSEQUENCES AT ALL," PRESIDENT NYERERE SAID. "WE DID WARN THEM THAT TIME HAS COME THAT KENYA MUST BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE CONSEQUENCES OF THIS RECKLESS UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 DAR ES 00619 101011Z

ACTION OF BREADING UP EAST AFRICA. THE KENYANS HAVE JUST REALISED THAT THEY DO BUSINESS IN TANZANIA," HE SAID.

PRESIDENT NYERERE SAID THAT HE STILL BELIEVES IN THE VALUE OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY AND WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK FOR ITS PRESERVATION. HE SAID "I'LL KEEP ON WORKING TO SAVE SOME KIND OF EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY UNTIL I'M CONVINCED IT IS IMPOSSIBLE. I AM NOT GOING TO GIVE UP", HE PLEDGED.

THE TANZANIA GOVERNMENT YESTERDAY REJECTED A PROTEST NOTE FROM BRITAIN WHICH HAD CLAIMED THAT THE VEHICLES AND AIRCRAFT GROUNDED IN TANZANIA FOLLOWING HER CLOSURE OF THE BORDER WITH KENYA, BELONGED TO BRITAIN.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID AT A PRESS CONFERENCE THAT FOLLOWING THE CLOSURE OF THE BORDER THERE REMAINED A LARGE NUMBER OF KENYA-REGISTERED NOTOR VEHICLES AND AIRCRAFT IN TANZANIA AS NO MOVEMENT WAS ALLOWED BETWEEN THESE TWO COUNTRIES."

HE SAID THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT YESTERDAY SENT A PROTEST NOTE TO TANZANIA, CLAIMING THAT THE VEHICLES AND AIRCRAFT STRANDED IN TANZANIA WERE BRITISH PROPERTY.

ASKED HOW MANY VEHICLES AND AIRCRAFT WERE GROUNDED

IN TANZANIA, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THEY "ARE FAIRLY MANY"  
END TEXT.  
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## Message Attributes

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